

REMARKS

By this Amendment the specification has been amended to better conform with U.S. practice and claims 1-14 have been replaced by new claims 15-32 which better define the invention. Entry is requested.

In the outstanding Office Action the examiner has rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Robinson in view of JP 10285475.

The invention asserts that this rejection cannot be continued.

Robinson discloses an imaging system having a swing-driven image sensor. In Fig. 1 a glass plate is arranged to be tilted slightly and to swing back and forth by a drive 10 (col. 3, 1.14). The drive for glass plate 2 is exemplified in Fig. 2a and 2b, whereby there is shown an axle 14 to which the glass block is mounted transversely. By accordingly polarizing the piezoelectric elements according to Fig. 2a or 2b on one hand pivoting of axle 14 occurs, but additionally because of the rigidity of the piezoelectric elements in their length extent and their right mounting to the support, an uncontrolled forth and back movement.

Therefore, the axle 14 which might be considered analogous to the device according to the applicant's claims is linked on one hand and according to Fig. 2b via two hinges to the reference system, but not exclusively, because additionally, such link has movable parts as of the piezoelectric elements. Additionally, and considering a linear forth and back movement, the stiffness of the piezoelectric elements and their mount to the respective support leads to a quite uncontrolled snapping-

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like forth and back movement, which by no means may be considered as "guided". Thus Robinson does not teach the claimed method or apparatus where a linear movement is to be accurately guided and where a link between the device to be guided and the reference system is established via at least three articulate axes.

JP 10285475 discloses a stage 1 and solid state image-pickup element 5 mounted within frames 2a, 2b by springs 4b. There are no links via articulate axes.

No possible combination of Robinson and JP 10285475 would suggest the invention as now claimed.

Favorable reevaluation is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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